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## Richmond Times-Dispatch

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1915

### Prepare for Preparedness Now

PREPAREDNESS does not mean preparation for preparedness. It is to be hoped by the whole country that the President's desire to concentrate the attention of Congress on plans for preparedness will meet with immediate response. In the nature of things, such plans will, and should, require careful consideration and carrying them into effect will consume considerable time. There is every reason why they should be taken up at once.

The worst of it is to come. Every dealer in patter on the vaudeville stage will work in a Ford joke for the next six months.

### Lloyd George Ascendant

DAVID LLOYD GEORGE is the man of the hour in Great Britain. Indeed, he has appeared to be the man of every critical hour since the nation went to war. Curiously enough, he is even more popular with the highly conservative elements of the population than he is with the Liberals. Lord Northcliffe and his newspapers want Lloyd George to replace Asquith as the head of the government, and an increasing section of the British press, mostly Conservative, joins in the cry.

Rather a transformation for a man who before the war started was so cordially detested in all Tory households that he was used in place of other boyish men to frighten rebellious little children off to bed.

The Governor of Texas says that Carranza is a man of the safe and sane type. Nobody doubts his sanity, but if he is safe in Mexico he has a monopoly.

### "O Temporal, O Mores!"

UNFORTUNATELY for the sidewalkers, it is the description of holiday conditions on Main Street in "News of Fifty Years Ago" that the weather was too gloomy for those ladies who persist in trains to sweep off the mud with their nice flowing robes.

Well, things have changed somewhat. Main Street or Broad may be as muddy as it pleases nowadays, and remain that way, without prompt assistance from any lady's "flowing robes." In the year of grace, nineteen hundred and fifteen, it simply is not done. Trains have disappeared—to put the case moderately.

Perhaps the Street-Cleaning Department, in this and other cities, contributed to the change. If that supposition expresses the fact, the "sweet uses of adversity" have received another demonstration.

If it be true that the Mexicans have been ordered to build, it is almost a safe bet that there will be another revolution down there before the last leaf is torn from next year's calendar.

### Loopholes Aptly

BRISTOL, VA., reports the latest Christmas trade ever known. It became so great last week that the express company had to put on special trains to handle the mail-order packages. The wholesale liquor establishments were almost swamped with orders.

Bristol expects to carry on business after Virginia becomes dry territory. The Tennessee Supreme Court has decided that interstate shipping business is legal, and there are houses in Chattanooga and Memphis engaged in this traffic. Southern and Western Virginia will be added to the Tennessee territory after next November. In North Carolina the single-mart law has cut down the size of mail-order packages, but has enormously increased the number, and furthermore illicit distilling is said to flourish in the Great Smoky Mountains on an absolutely unprecedented scale. Moonshine is being sold in great quantities in the prohibition States.

It is evident that prohibition in certain parts of the dry territory is little better than farce. Such a condition of affairs can only result in great evils and Virginia should be protected against them by legislation genuinely devised to prohibit laws which are not enforced or which can be easily evaded before the moral fiber of a community.

In the prize-fighting managers could arrange a match between Villa and Huerta, with loss of millions of dollars, and divide the gate receipts pro rata, each man interested would have enough money to retire for the remainder of his life.

### International Typographical Union

THERE are labor unions and labor unions. Others have run with there is little to be said of others, there is much to be said by way of commendation. Consistent among these latter is the International Typographical Union. This great organization is not only conducted by methods of internal administration that make it a force of great weight and power, but it has as one of its ultimate aims, a charity to beneficent and so fine that it alone would justify the existence of the union.

At Colorado Springs the union maintains what is commonly known as the Printers' Home, which is in reality a great sanatorium and retreat for its aged, ill and disabled members. It is a matter of common knowledge that the printing trade is strongly conducive to tuberculosis. Yet it is the just proud boast of the union that no printer in

good standing is allowed to suffer, no matter what his disease or disability. And this speaks more highly for the institution than the fact that it cost more than \$1,300,000.

Now the local union is anxious to establish an adjunct institution nearer to the East, preferably in Virginia. Presumably, this would increase the assessment on members; certainly, it would increase the union's capacity for doing good.

There are labor unions and labor unions.

A Cleveland manufacturer of concrete cream announces that bullets will soon be made of cheese. Why convert it into anything so deadly? It will answer the purpose if taken in the raw ad lib. But if the Cleveland man succeeds, the command along the line will be changed from "Charge" to "Cheese it." This ought to bring peace.

### Navy Estimates and Common Sense

IF as the critics of the President and Secretary Daniels now are declaring, the secretary violated the proprieties when he insisted on the general board of the navy preparing an estimate of naval expenditures that stands a chance of receiving congressional approval, the whole theory of this government and of every other government that is not an absolute despotism is entirely wrong.

The original estimates of the general board provided for a navy equal by 1925 to that of Great Britain, and entailing the expenditure of so many hundreds of millions of dollars that no Congress in its sober senses would have dreamed of making the necessary appropriations. The Secretary of the Navy, who is the responsible head of his department, and who has some comprehension of the financial situation of the government, declined to make himself ridiculous by transmitting to Congress a plan that would have had no chance of adoption.

He insisted rather that the general board revise its estimate of needs in accordance with appropriations likely to be made available. The plan he favored provided for the expenditure of half a billion dollars on naval construction in the next four years. If that much can be obtained from Congress, the advocates of preparedness will have won a substantial victory.

It is not the function of the experts to determine how much shall be spent by this nation on its navy. The experts' duty rather is to advise how the money that Congress appropriates may be expended to the best advantage, and their advice on this aspect of the general subject should receive the most respectful consideration.

The Constitution makes it the duty of the President to "give to the Congress information on the state of the Union and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." The Secretary of the Navy is the adviser of the President and the general board the adviser of the secretary, but it is the President, in the last analysis, who must judge what is "necessary and expedient." He does not believe that a navy the size of Great Britain's answers that description, nor does Congress believe it, nor does the country believe it. However distinguished, respectable and technically expert the holders of that view may be, they are in a hopeless minority.

As for Henry A. Wise Wood, the gentleman who has resigned his place on the naval advisory board because Mr. Daniels "suppressed" the original recommendations of the general board, the committee headed by Thomas A. Edison is well rid of him. So far as we were able to observe, there were no paroxysms of public gratification at the time of his appointment and there will be no outbursts of lamentation that he has ceased to ornament the scene. As a matter of fact, it makes precious little difference one way or the other.

Mr. Root declines to allow his name to go on the Minnesota presidential primary, according to the latest. He probably thinks that such a declaration will increase the demand, as it did in the case of Justice Hughes. It might, if Mr. Root was not handicapped by Barnes of New York.

### Schedule Requires Change

HOPEWELL, joins Richmond in insisting that the train service between the two cities, which was inaugurated yesterday, be so amended or amplified as to take into consideration the needs of the great army of men comprising the construction force of the Du Pont plant. These men number 10,000, and yet the schedule is so arranged as to make the through trains of practically no benefit to them.

The Hopewell News, following a discussion of this subject in The Times-Dispatch, comments as follows:

Then read that of the construction (industry) would be worth a great deal to Richmond. It could be secured. No point the enterprising trade bodies of that city which have worked so incessantly to secure the inauguration of the through train service, will be equally insistent on having this defect remedied so that the schedule will be enabled to secure the largest share of the trade here as possible.

The Chamber of Commerce should besmirch itself. The construction force includes those Du Pont employees most likely to desire to live in Richmond. They are craftsmen, in large part, many of whom will not be able to obtain profitable employment at their trades in Hopewell after the period of heavy construction has drawn to a close. Large numbers of them have permanent homes in Richmond. They are, above all others, the very ones for whose convenience the train schedule should be arranged.

The Gary dinner to T. R. went down all right, but it won't stay down. It wasn't quite to the plan of the ducky's con trap, which was constructed that it would catch the animal "remin" or "gwin"; that, evidently, was the intention of the Gary layout on a larger scale. To bring out T. R. as a candidate so he will be a G. O. P. and a B. M. at the same time and wreck the Wilson policies, is a big combination to play, even where New York financiers deal the cards.

The authorities of New York City are so infused with the spirit of arrest that we shall look for future statues of notables there to be erected on wheels. Now they are talking about removing the bronze figure of Horace Greely from the site where he made it famous to a corner down at Battery Park, which is overcrowded with peasant stands and ice cream pagodas and a fish museum.

With two wives on his trail, Villa may change his mind and return to the firing line, where it won't be quite so hot.

King Peter Turned Back. News headline. But he did it to face the enemy.

## SEEN ON THE SIDE

### Literary Musings.

Before you meet sweet Marie,  
She "just adored" the things you wrote.  
But afterwards you found that she  
On gems of fancy ceased to dote—  
Yet still she smiled, through golden tresses,  
When you penned checks for hats or dresses.

### The Pessimist Says:

Some of the impassioned patriots who declare themselves ready to bleed for their country would express themselves better if they omitted the preposition.

### Shakespeare for Everybody.

For the tenacious:  
"Ah, countrymen, if, when you make your prayers,  
God should be so obdurate as yourselves,  
How would it fare with your departed souls?"  
2 Henry VI, iv, 7.

For the square dealer:  
"There is he afraid that hath his quarrel just,  
And he but naked, though locked up in steel,  
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted."  
2 Henry VI, iii, 2.

### A Layman's Sermon.

Somebody has said that to be agreeable is a duty. But you can't be agreeable unless you are genuine. Veneering will gladden, and it can be kept polished by constant rubbing, or better, by posing. The people who are naturally genuine will, however, discover the trick. Between the two, the man who is natural, whether disagreeable so or not, is more to be trusted than the man who is a sycophant.

People who are charming by nature are not particularly to be praised, however delightful they may be. After all, the man or woman worth cultivating, the ones who should be encouraged, are they whose natures are gentle, but whose conditions in life have been such as to tempt them to become morose, or become embittered. These are the people who appreciate the kind word, who, helped out of the slough, become strong and know how to strengthen the whole social structure.

A man or a woman may be well off without knowing it, but nobody can be miserable for a second without realizing it.

### Deterioration.

Grubbs—Dr. Sileem is a good deal embittered these days.

Grubbs—What seems to be the trouble with him?

Grubbs—He says that with a safe and sane Christmas following a safe and sane Fourth of July two of the principal holidays of the year are losing their whole significance to the medieval fraternity.

### Perfect.

"Did Banks have a very successful Christmas?"

"Very. None of the women members of his family gave him either neckties or cigars."

The apple of discord grows without any cultivation.

### SHAKESPEARE.

Not satisfied with looking for trouble, many a man will spend a dollar or more in patronizing a fortune-teller. And if he is told that there is some misfortune in store for him he will be disappointed until he finds it.

The dullest man often has the sharpest features.

### We Have a Little List.

Proposed roster of staff officers for General Roosevelt's expeditionary army that is to invade Germany:

Chief of staff—Richard Harding Davis.  
Adjutant-general—Robert W. Chambers.  
Quartermaster-general—Judge Gary.  
Chief of artillery (small bore)—the editor of the New York Tribune.  
Commissary-general—Gussie Gardner.  
Chief of intelligence department—vacant.  
Director of balloon ascensions—the editor of Collier's Weekly.  
Paymaster-general—George W. Perkins.  
And there will be no mourning at the bar.

You often have to look for your friends, but you can spot an enemy any time of day.

### For "Preparedness" Revenue.

Charge fee for poetic licenses.  
Put a land tax on one lot in life.  
Revenue stamp to be placed on bonds of friendship.

Little on deeds of iniquity and stocks of information.  
When excuses are invented compel the inventors to patent them and pay regular fee.—Boston Transcript.

If you will let it alone, Truth will tell itself.

### Tit for Tat.

See—I don't see why you are always telling me of the biscuits your mother used to bake.  
He—Well, so far as that goes, I don't see why you are always telling me about the dollars your father used to make.

### Cause and Effect.

Little Tommy Tucker  
Sang for his supper:  
And he got it on Christmas Day,  
But poor Tommy Tucker  
Howled after supper:  
It hurt in so grievous a way.

The full returns have convinced the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch that "They came very close to proving that Cadet Sweet had never been at the Virginia Military Institute."

The full editor of the Orange Observer made the announcement as follows: "President Wilson began his second term as vice-president on Saturday last, and he will be elected President for the second term next year." Unique, to say the least of it.

The Chase City Progress, having studied the thing out, concludes: "After all, we have never seen any reason why a couple should not get married on Saturday night if it so happened that both were ready, and now we are to suppose that it will be the regular thing."

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot probably hits the nail squarely on the head in the following: "The President's program calls for preparedness for war, but the country will be lucky if it does not find out that the politicians are more intent upon preparedness for 1916."

The celebration of Christmas," says the Emporia Independent, "is presumed to be in honor of the birth of Christ, but quite often we sin a mortal sin, and it becomes a wild jubilee in the service of the devil." Wonder if it was that way in all of the "dispensary" towns?

"A preacher in Richmond," observes the "Chifton Forge Review," "has declined an increase in salary, and yet there are people who say that men enter the ministry for the money they are able to get out of it." Is there any record that a preacher outside of Richmond ever made a like declaration?—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

that ever came down the Gospel road, too—who did that very thing. And that isn't all: If you ever hear of any other good thing that's scarce in other places, ask Waynesboro; nine chances to one we have it.—Valley Virginian. Name, please.

"A disgruntled old bachelor friend," says the Blackstone Courier, "has volunteered the suggestion that the only way many stockholders see upon the streets can ever get filled is to hang them up Christmas and trust to Santa Claus." And that in Blackstone! Why, the disgruntled old bachelor ought to be shot on the spot.

## News of Fifty Years Ago

(From The Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 28, 1865.)

At last there is a police force in Richmond that is a police force. Major Claiborne has men well in hand; they all respect and honor him, and will obey his orders, and he and his men will see to it that the people shall have protection.

Main Street was yesterday a vast pool of mud. Yes, mud was everywhere. And to the right of you, mud to the left of you, mud in front of you. Into your eyes splashed the mud of Richmond. Unfortunately for the sidewalkers, the weather was too gloomy for those ladies who persist in trains to sweep off the mud with their nice flowing robes.

The account of that alleged fight in Alexandria between whites and blacks on Christmas Day which was briefly reported in this paper at the time, has been grossly exaggerated in the reports in the Northern papers. The fact is, only one negro was killed, and one perhaps mortally wounded. The negroes brought on the fight, and prompt action on the part of the white men was absolutely necessary to prevent further bloodshed.

L. M. Curry, well known in Richmond, has been elected president of the Howard Association at Marion, Ala., and has assumed the duties of the position.

There was a small riot in Portsmouth on Christmas Day. Two dozen negro boys and half as many white boys got into a rumptus on the principal street. White men came to the rescue of the white boys, and negro men then took part. Bricks and pistols came into play. A white boy was hurt by a brick and a negro was wounded by a pistol shot. The police and the military authorities finally put an end to the riot and several arrests were made.

The program simultaneously announced at New York by Horace Greeley and at Washington by General Banks, that the coercive power of the government is to be exercised upon the Southern States until they shall concede negro suffrage, makes the fairer joined between these politicians and President Johnson.

It is denied from Washington that General Grant is to go to the banks of the Rio Grande to look after the Mexican situation. The report is that after the holidays he will make another trip to the South, but will certainly go no further than the city of New Orleans.

Generals Sherman and Joe Johnston met in the Gayoso Hotel in Memphis a few days ago, the first time they had met since their interview in North Carolina last spring. It is said that their meeting was most cordial.

General Wade Hampton has come to his big plantation in the State of Louisiana, carrying with him seventy-five or a hundred South Carolina negroes to work on the same.

The high price of cotton is fooling Southern planters into making too much cotton next year. Already there is evidence that there will be too much cotton planted next year.

Gold has gone down in New York to 145. This is quite a drop from the way the precious metal has been selling of late.

## The Voice of the People

### Praise for State Troops.

The Editor of The Times-Dispatch.  
Sir—Referring to the letter signed by Mr. E. M. Burton in your issue of this day, in which he unreasonably condemns martial law and the military manner in which the civil war was needlessly abrogated in the recent disaster at Hopewell, it appears to me that the gentleman was not present during this trying time, or else he would have used the word "needless." It also appears to me that he is writing from a theoretical, rather than a practical standpoint. He does not burden his columns with a detailed reply to the gentleman's letter, as I do not care to discuss the intricacies of the law to which he alludes, but I do wish to publicly express my appreciation of the masterful manner with which the situation was handled by Major Bowles and his militia and to the Governor for sending us those boys. It was a time which demanded quick and drastic action, and the Governor readily realized it, and by doing so prevented much misery and lawlessness. The only sorrow which the militia, with few exceptions, from the martial law were thugs, thieves and bootleggers.

Hopewell, Va., December 28, 1915.  
J. M. DUKE.

### A War-Time Christmas.

The Editor of The Times-Dispatch.  
Sir—All citizens, as well as veterans, should feel under many obligations to The Times-Dispatch for giving so much of its valuable space to "News of Fifty Years Ago." It is valuable history, and should be preserved. "Gracie Craddock's" recollections are interesting, and I hope that he will continue to contribute. The best breakfast, dinner and supper I ever enjoyed were served on Church Hill at the table of Mr. Miles Turpin on Christmas, Sunday, 1865. The manager, Mr. Little, married on the Thursday before to Dr. W. W. Dickey. I was invited to the wedding feast, but not having appropriate x-dress, I put in my application for a furlough to take effect Saturday. My leave of absence of only twelve hours did not reach me until late Saturday night. I answered a clock-poll and then, not expected back on the lines, between the James and Appomattox Rivers, until roll-call at sunset Monday. The night was dark and intensely cold. I crossed Mayor's Bridge just before daybreak Sunday morning.

Walking down Gay Street I saw a large building that was filled with suits for the soldiers, and seeing the door ajar and the guard asleep on a pile of blankets, and covered over with a cloth, I slipped in as quietly as I could. I succeeded in getting an outfit, from cap to socks, including a good blanket.

I carried my journey to the Church Hill home of my uncle. Miles Turpin escorted me to a comfortable room.

A good breakfast was awaiting me after I had washed, and when I entered that dining room I felt as proud as the new groom, because I was as neatly dressed as he.

Only one of the three square meals that day, but Aunt Rebecca filled my haversack with ham, turkey, bread, cake, etc., and I started back on another night train.

EX-PRIVATE WM. H. TURPIN.  
Richmond, December 26, 1915.

## Queries and Answers

### Grant River.

Please state the length of the Mississippi from its source to the Gulf and of the Missouri from its source to its confluence with the Mississippi.  
2,660, 2,690 miles.  
R. W. JACKSON.

### Antisuffrage.

Please give me an address from which I may get information about the Antisuffrage League in Virginia.  
CONSTANT RICA DIER.  
Mrs. F. D. Williams, 5 West Franklin, Richmond, Va., is the president, and can probably send you circulars of information.

### In Mathematics.

Please solve for me this problem: A square is surrounded by a walk which contains one acre and is two rods wide. What is the area of the square?  
If you will draw a figure and let x be the side of the inclosed square, you will see that the walk is made up of four parts, two of them being x plus 4 rods long and the other two being x long and all being 2 rods wide. Hence, the area of these four parts will be twice x plus 4 multiplied by 2 and twice x multiplied by 2, or, in all, 8x plus 16. Put this equal to the area of the walk, 160 rods, and solve the little equation and you will get 18 rods for the length of x or the side of the inclosed square.

## Hand in Hand

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



—From the Rochester Herald.

## WAR AND OUR POSTAL SERVICE

Postmaster-General Burleson's annual report to Congress shows that the war has cost the American postal service \$21,000,000, but that economies of administration have reduced the annual deficit to a little more than \$11,000,000 for the fiscal year which ended last June. Considerations of service, the report says, were placed above all others and notwithstanding adverse economic conditions, expansion and improvement of postal facilities continued. Had it not been for economic reorganization begun before the war started and continued since, the postal department would have saved the deficit would have been at least \$24,000,000. Of the total deficit, however, his analysis of the department's finances declares that all but a little more than \$10,000,000 was the result of increases of postal salaries and additional railway mail pay required by law.

Chief among recommendations to Congress are a renewal of previous proposals for change from the weight basis of fixing rates to the space basis of carrying mail; a renewal of recommendations for government ownership of telegraphs and telephones; removal of the four-pound limit on first class mail; and the limitation of more liberal limitations on the weight and insurance of parcel post packages.

The greatest expansion in the postal office, the report shows, was in the parcel post. Statistics gathered from fifty principal post-offices show it to be half of all the postal business, and that more than a million parcels are being transported every year. Before the parcel post was established not more than one-fourth that number was handled. The amount of postage collected from that source approached

\$20,000,000 during the first fifteen days of October this year alone.

While the war has crippled the money order system, it has honored the postal savings banks. The number of depositors and the amount deposited exceeded any year since the banks were established. More than 500,000 depositors were on the books at the end of June, 1915, a gain of 35 per cent for the year, and they had on deposit nearly \$68,000,000, a gain of more than 50 per cent. The increase in deposits in some cities was remarkable. They increased in New York 19 per cent; Bridgeport, Conn., 183 per cent; Brooklyn, 147 per cent; Paterson, 102 per cent; Jersey City, 122 per cent; Detroit, 112 per cent. Other cities showed gains ranging from 20 to 160 per cent. Of all the depositors more than 55 per cent were foreign born, and there had more than 71 per cent of the total deposits were made. They are represented as showing plainly the attraction of the postal banks to the immigrant.

The activities of the Post-Office Department in support of the war effort use of the mails are unabated. The report says the department is working in close co-operation with those interested in purifying advertising columns, and that during the year fifty-seven censuses or persons were issued from the main and 1,300 letters were barred out.

The subject of railway mail pay, which is one of spirited controversy between the Post-Office Department and the railways, the Postmaster-General's report treats at length. It describes pressing for immediate adjustment, but expresses regret that a bill was killed in the last Congress.

## LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

By S. W. STRAUS, President American Society for Thrift.

"I never had a chance," said a young man to me the other day. "I'm thirty-one years old with a family to take care of. I have no money saved because it takes all I earn to keep us going, and my business isn't as good as it used to be. It didn't have so many to support I could save money and branch out in business."

This young man was wearing \$2 ties, \$6 shirts and \$10 shoes. He dances till so early in the morning that his brain is asleep and he is in no condition to pay strict attention to his business. He has had his chance he has it every day, but his ears are closed to opportunity saying to him, "Save your health, save your money."

The man who gets the top dog to get there through chance of luck. He gets there and made every minute count. They saved their time. A start of fifteen minutes late one working day means a loss of nine and three-eighths of an hour every year. Almost ten days' work could be done in a day being on time. And time is money.

Only fifteen minutes wasted daily means ninety-one hours a year, or almost eleven and one-half eight-hour days. A minute saved each day is a gain of over six hours. A minute saved every hour of an eight-hour day means forty-one hours, or five and one-half days.

## A Moral Miracle

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The fact that not an American missionary has been killed in the holy war proclaimed by the Turkish Sultan, although there have been many massacres in European and Asiatic Turkey and in Persia led by the fanatics trained from their youth up in the belief that the slaughter of "infidels" is an act of piety, may well be called a moral miracle. As Bishop Odham has happily styled it, "We cannot but feel the flattering union to our soul that our flag has protected them. Most of the fanatics never heard of America, and few that have care nothing about it. As the bishop points out, our near neighbors, the Mexicans, have no terror of the American flag, when they set about murdering and looting. Not only have the missionaries been secured but